

EOPS PROGRAMS DIVISION NEWSLETTER

July 2004

Recipients are encouraged to share the Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) Programs Division newsletter with all agency personnel and community colleagues through email or by posting the newsletter.

Please note: Many of the documents cited in the newsletter require Adobe Acrobat Reader. This software can be downloaded for free at: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep.html>.

Announcements

"Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor" On June 15, 2004, Attorney General John Ashcroft announced that the Justice Department is accepting nominations for the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor, the highest national award for valor by a public safety officer. Nominations are due July 30, 2004. <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/medalofvalor/welcome.html>

"All Stars Facilitator and Teacher Training" All Stars is a school- or community-based program design to delay the onset of and prevent high-risk behaviors in middle school adolescents age 11 to 14 through the development of positive personal characteristics. Hosted by the Western Massachusetts Center for Healthy Communities, the training will be held on **October 5 and 6, 2004, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Western Regional Health Office, 23 Service Center Road (on the corner of Service Center Road and Route 5/10 (Pleasant St.) Northampton, MA. To register please contact Miriam Jusino, at 413-540-0600 extension 3124 or 800-850-3880 extension 3124 or by email: Miriam_Jusino@cooley-dickinson.org. Additional information about the All Stars Program is available at: <http://modelprograms.samhsa.gov/pdfs/Details/All%20Stars.pdf>.

Funding Opportunities

To date, over 500 local police agencies, district attorneys' offices, sheriffs' departments, state agency representatives and private sector employees receive the EOPS Programs Division Newsletter. In an effort to provide timely and relevant funding information for the multitude of subscribers, the Funding Opportunities section has been expanded and is attached to the newsletter. If you have problems opening the attachment, please e-mail Patricia Bergin at patricia.bergin@state.ma.us.

"Application for Grant Funds" Please be advised, for the purposes of grant solicitation by the EOPS Programs Division, the Application for Grant Funds (AGF) replaces the term RFR (Request for Response).

EOPS GRANTEES: New Standard Quarterly Financial Report Instructions and Detail Worksheet After a careful review of past subrecipient grant reporting and documentation practices, the Executive Office of Public Safety (EOPS) Programs Division has developed reimbursement standards that describe the type of documentation that must be submitted with quarterly programmatic and financial reports to justify reimbursement for expenses incurred, and the specific documents subrecipients must have on file for backup during on-site monitoring visits. To download a chart that defines each allowable cost category and the documentation standards, please go to the EOPS Programs Division website at: www.mass.gov/ccj/update.htm.

Adherence to the documentation standards will be an absolute condition for reimbursement. Also at the EOPS Programs Division website is an Excel worksheet that must be submitted along with your quarterly programmatic and financial reports. If you are a current EOPS grantee, your next quarterly financial report, for the period ending June 30, 2004 and due to EOPS by July 15, 2004, must follow these documentation and reporting standards.

Research and Statistics

"Prostitution of Juveniles: Patterns from NIBRS" Little statistical and research information exists about the prostitution of juveniles in its various forms. However, the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) provides a new opportunity for analyzing incidents of this problem that come to the attention of police. Prostitution incidents with juvenile offenders were distinctive in a number of ways from [adult] prostitution in general:

- juvenile prostitution offenders known to police were more often male (61%) than female (39%), a greater disproportion than among adult prostitution offenders (53% male and 47% female)

- 68% of prostitution incidents involving juvenile offenders took place at an outside location (such as a highway, road, alley, field, woods, or parking lot), this was less frequent than for adult offenders, and juvenile incidents were considerably more likely to occur at homes and residences.
- 27% of all prostitution incidents involving juvenile offenders occurred in large cities compared to 10% of adult prostitution incidents.
- arrests were less likely to be made in prostitution incidents involving juvenile offenders than in incidents involving adult offenders (74% and 90% of incidents, respectively).

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/203946.pdf>

“Project Safe Neighborhood: America's Network Against Gun Violence” Boston's Project Ceasefire helped to set the foundation on which Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) was built and expanded. PSN provides a multifaceted approach to deterring and punishing gun crime. In 2002, death by firearms accounted for 67% of all homicides. Because of PSN, federal prosecutions of gun crime are at record levels; they have increased 68% from FY 2000 to FY 2003. In FY 2003, 93% of defendants were sentenced to some prison time; about 72% received sentences of at least 3 years.

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/bja/205263.pdf>

“Detection and Prevalence of Substance Use Among Juvenile Detainees” This report assesses substance use detection methods (self-report and urinalysis) and prevalence among high-risk youth detained in Cook County, IL. Virtually all (94%) of the youth entering detention had used drugs during their lifetime, and 85.4% had used drugs in the past 6 months. Two thirds (66.4%) of detainees tested positive for drugs in urinalysis. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/203934.pdf>

“Gambling and Crime Among Arrestees: Exploring the Link” The percentage of problem or pathological gamblers among arrestees was three to five times higher than in the general population. Nearly one-third of arrestees identified as pathological gamblers admitted having committed robbery in the previous year. Approximately 13% had assaulted someone for money. Pathological gamblers were much more likely to have sold drugs than other arrestees. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/nij/203197.pdf>

“After Prison: Roadblocks to Reentry (A Report On State Legal Barriers Facing People With Criminal Records)” This report summarizes the findings of a two-year study by the Legal Action Center (LAC) of the legal obstacles that people with criminal records face when they attempt to reenter society and become productive, law-abiding citizens. Some existing legal barriers include:

- 37 states have laws permitting all employers and occupational licensing agencies to ask about and consider arrests that never led to conviction in making employment decisions.
- 17 states have adopted the federal drug felon ban without modification. They permanently deny benefits, even if a crime occurred years before or the person has been treated and rehabilitated.
- 12 states have lifetime bans on voting for some or all people convicted of crimes, 5 states prohibit voting for life by those convicted of certain classes of crimes; 7 states have a lifetime bar that may be lifted only if the state grants a formal “restoration of civil rights.”

http://www.lac.org/lac/upload/lacreport/LAC_PrintReport.pdf

“The Meaning Of “Life”: Long Prison Sentences In Context” One of every 11 (9.4%) offenders in state/federal prison is now serving a life sentence, an increase of 83% from 1992, according to a report by The Sentencing Project. Of the lifers in prison, one in four (26.3%) is serving a sentence of life without parole, having increased from one in six (17.8%) in 1992.

http://www.soros.org/initiatives/justice/articles_publications/publications/lifers_20040511/lifers.pdf

“State Prison Expenditures, 2001” Prison operations consumed about 77% of state correctional costs in FY 2001. Spending on medical care for state prisoners totaled \$3.3 billion, or 12% of operating expenditures in 2001. <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/spe01.pdf>

Resources

“Citizen Corps” describes a nationwide program that promotes volunteer activities to support community safety and homeland security. Citizen Corps programs and partners build on the successful efforts that are in place in many communities across the United States to prevent crime and respond to emergencies.

<http://www.ncjrs.org/html/bja/203669/>

“Access to Counsel” This report describes problems affecting access to counsel at each stage of the juvenile justice process, discusses factors that hinder access to and quality of counsel, and identifies elements of effective counsel.

<http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/ojdp/204063.pdf>

“Project ChildSafe” Project ChildSafe (www.projectchildsafe.org) is a nationwide firearm safety education program that distributes free gun locks and teaches firearm owners how to properly store and safely handle their weapons. <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/bja/204959.pdf>

Homeland Security Resources

“The United States Conference of Mayors Interoperability Survey” The U. S. Conference of Mayors recently released its Interoperability Survey which measures the reliability and effectiveness of communications systems between local agencies and federal, regional, state and other local entities in responding to disasters. http://www.usmayors.org/72ndAnnualMeeting/interoperabilityreport_062804.pdf

“New Homeland Security Operations Center Serves as Primary Hub for Information” Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently set up the Homeland Security Operations Center (HSOC) to serve as the primary, national-level nerve center for the nation. The cornerstone of the HSOC is its ability to share threat information and provide real-time interactive connectivity with governors, homeland security advisors, law enforcement partners and critical infrastructure operators in all 50 states and more than 50 major urban areas through the Homeland Security Information Network. http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/press_release/press_release_0456.xml

“National Incident Management System (NIMS) On-line Course” This new online course will help first responders understand the concepts and principles underlying the new NIMS and takes approximately three hours to complete. It explains the purpose, principles, key components and benefits of NIMS. The course also contains a “Planning Activity” screen which provides the opportunity to complete and print planning tasks. <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWEB/IS/is700.asp>

Contact Information

Suggestions? We welcome and encourage your comments regarding this electronic newsletter. Please email Patricia Bergin, Evaluation Specialist, Massachusetts Statistical Analysis Center, at: patricia.bergin@state.ma.us

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Please visit the Programs Division web site at: <http://www.state.ma.us/ccj/>.

Department of Justice agency web sites:

NCJRS <http://www.ncjrs.org/>

OJP <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/>

BJA <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/>

BJS <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>

OJJDP <http://ojdp.ncjrs.org/>

NIJ <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/>